

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed March 14, 2005 (the “Office Action”), the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the above claim amendments and the following remarks. In the foregoing amendment, claims 1-4, 9, 17-18, 22-23, 25, 34-35, 39-43 have been amended to clarify aspects of the inventions of these claims. Claims 5-8, 14-15, 24, 30-31, and 36 have been cancelled. The title of the application and the abstract of the disclosure have also been amended. In view of these amendments and the following remarks, the applicants respectfully submit that pending claims 1-4, 9-13, 16-23, 25-29, 32-35, and 37-43 are in condition for allowance. The applicants therefore request that these claims be passed to issuance as soon as possible.

I. Formalities

Objections to the Specification

In the Office Action, the examiner objected to the abstract of the disclosure because of its length. In the foregoing amendment, the abstract of the disclosure has been amended to reduce its length. In the Office Action, the title of the application was also objected to as being non-descriptive. In the foregoing amendment, the title of the application has been amended in the manner suggested by the examiner in the Office Action. In the Office Action, claim 43 was objected to as being dependent upon an incorrect claim. In the foregoing amendment, claim 43 has been amended to depend from claim 40 as suggested by the examiner. In view of these amendments, the applicants submit that the formal deficiencies with the specification identified by the examiner have been corrected.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

In the Office Action, claims 2 and 23 were rejected as being indefinite under 35 U.S.C. §112. In this regard, the examiner objected to the use of the terms “origin” and “mask size” in claims 2 and 23. In this regard, the term “origin” has been replaced with the term “start address” to more specifically define the claimed invention. With regard to the term “mask size,” the applicants respectfully submit that the meaning of this term is sufficiently set forth in the specification (see, for example, page 23). Accordingly, the applicants have not amended the term “mask size” herein.

II. Prior Art Rejections

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

In the Office Action, claims 1-36, 42 and 43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. US2004/0070632A1 to Wilkes (hereinafter “*Wilkes*”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,404,444 to Johnston et al. (hereinafter “*Johnston*”). The applicants submit that the cited references do not, either separately or combined, teach each and every element of these claims, as amended.

Independent Claims 1, 22, 34, and 42

The applicants respectfully submit that the cited references do not teach every element of amended independent claims 1, 22, 34, and 42, either separately or combined. In particular, with respect to amended independent claim 1, the cited references do not teach, describe, or suggest a “display comprising a grid space having two or more individually selectable rectangles, each rectangle corresponding to a distinct portion of the network addresses of the set, and wherein each rectangle is displayed with either the first visual indicator or the second visual indicator.” *Wilkes* teaches a mechanism for

generating visual representations of an address space that includes representing the fourth quad of an address space as icons, representing the third quad as strings of icons, representing the second quad as spokes on wheels, and representing the first quad as cylinders of stacked wheels. *Wilkes*, however, does not teach, suggest, or describe the recitation of amended claim 1 requiring a grid space having two or more individually selectable rectangles, each rectangle corresponding to a distinct portion of the set of network addresses. This recitation is also not taught or suggested by *Johnston*. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is allowable over the cited art.

With respect to amended independent claim 22, the cited references do not teach or suggest “a grid having two or more individually selectable rectangles, each rectangle corresponding to a distinct portion of the network addresses of the set, and wherein each rectangle is displayed with either a first visual indicator for networking addresses having a first value of a first attribute or a second visual indicator for networking addresses having a second value of the first attribute.” Accordingly, for the reasons cited above with respect to independent claim 1, the applicants respectfully submit that amended independent claim 22 is also allowable over the art of record.

With respect to amended independent claim 34, the cited references do not teach “rendering a display of the plurality of networking addresses wherein the display comprises a grid having two or more individually selectable rectangles, each rectangle corresponding to a distinct portion of the network addresses of the set, and wherein each rectangle includes a first indicator for networking addresses having a first value for the attribute or includes a second indicator for networking addresses having a second value

for the attribute.” Accordingly, for the reasons cited above with respect to independent claim 1, the applicants respectfully submit that amended independent claim 34 is also allowable over the art of record.

With respect to amended independent claim 42, the cited references do not teach “constructing a multi-dimensional grid having multiple individually selectable positions, each position representing a portion of a linear index of networking addresses, in which each position in the arrangement corresponds to a specific value or group of values of the index, and wherein the data set includes definitional information of the networking addresses defining one or more attributes associated with each network address; and displaying the arrangement such that at each position in the arrangement, a first visual indicator is provided for the network addresses having a first value for the first attribute and a second visual indicator is provided for the network addresses having a second value for the first attribute.” Neither *Wilkes* nor *Johnston* teaches a multi-dimensional grid having multiple individually selectable positions, each position representing a portion of a linear index of networking addresses. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully submit that amended independent claim 42 is allowable over the cited prior art references.

The applicants also submit that dependent claims 2-4, 9-13, 16-21, 23, 25-29, 32-33, 35, and 43 are also allowable because these claims depend from allowable independent claims, and because these claims contain recitations not taught by the cited references. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-4, 9-13, 16-23, 25-29, 32-35, and 42-43 are allowable over the cited references.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

In the Office Action, claims 37-41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *Wilkes*. The applicants respectfully submit that *Wilkes* does not teach each and every element of these claims. In particular, with respect to claim 37, *Wilkes* does not teach “a tree illustrating a display hierarchical structure of the parent and subordinate networks.” In this regard, the Office Action cites Figure 4C of *Wilkes* as describing the tree of claim 37. Figure 4C of *Wilkes*, however, does not teach, suggest, or describe such a tree. Rather, Figure 4C of *Wilkes* shows an address space wheel that illustrates the third quad of an address space. Accordingly, *Wilkes* does not teach each and every recitation of independent claim 37.

With respect to dependent claim 38, Figure 4C of *Wilkes* shows only network addresses and therefore does not teach “a name assigned to each of the parent and subordinate networks of the hierarchical structure according to the definitional information” as recited by this claim. With regard to dependent claim 39, Figure 4C of *Wilkes* does not show providing “an indicator of the type of network addresses used for the parent and subordinate networks according to the definitional information.” With regard to dependent claim 40, Figure 4C of *Wilkes* does not teach providing “an indicator of whether the subordinate networks are aggregated with the parent network according to the definitional information.” *Wilkes* teaches nothing regarding indicating whether subordinate networks are aggregated with parent networks. *Wilkes* also does not teach providing “selections for expanding and collapsing the display of the subordinate networks of a parent network” as recited by dependent claim 41. Accordingly, for at

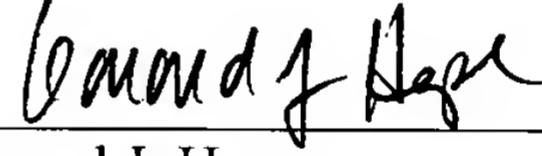
least these reasons, the applicants respectfully submit that claims 37-41 are patentable over *Wilkes* and request that these claims be passed to allowance.

CONCLUSION

For at least the aforementioned reasons, the Applicants assert that the pending claims 1-4, 9-13, 16-23, 25-29, 32-35, and 37-43 are in condition for allowance. The Applicants further assert that this response addresses each and every point of the Office Action, and respectfully requests that the Examiner pass this application with claims 1-4, 9-13, 16-23, 25-29, 32-35, and 37-43 to allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions, please contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at 404.522.1100.

Respectfully submitted,
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